12 FAH-8 H-520
DOORS, WINDOWS, LOCKS AND GRILLES FOR RESIDENCES

(TL:RSP-01; 11-01-2001)

12 FAH-8 H-521 GENERAL

(TL:RSP-01; 11-01-2001)

The correct design of hardware and selection of building materials used in the doors, windows and other access points will substantially reduce the possibility for criminal penetration and/or political violence.

12 FAH-8 H-522 EXTERIOR DOORS

(TL:RSP-01; 11-01-2001)

Exterior doors come in a variety of styles. All exterior doors, at a minimum, should be of a substantial nature, i.e., solid core, metal hollow core, etc. Outward swinging doors should have the external door hinges made non-removable. Equally as important as the door is the doorframe. See 12 FAH-8 H-142 for additional requirements for the post's specific threat rating. Local purchase or fabrication of doors is authorized.

12 FAH-8 H-522.1 Sliding Glass Doors

(TL:RSP-01; 11-01-2001)

This kind of door should be constructed with the movable section of the door sliding on the inside of the fixed portion. The door should be equipped with a lock that will hold the door and the frame together when secured. Where a good primary locking device is not present, an add-on lock can be installed at the top or bottom to achieve an effective locking standard. At a minimum, a charley-bar, broomstick, or metal rod placed in the bottom track will also prevent the door from being opened, even if the lock or latching device is bypassed. The objective of any lock or locking device is to require the intruder to break the glass before he or she can enter the residence. Local purchase or fabrication of locks and/or locking devices to enhance the security of sliding glass doors is authorized.

12 FAH-8 H-523 WINDOWS

(TL:RSP-01; 11-01-2001)

a. Windows are the most vulnerable areas in a residence. At least one window in every sleeping room, fourth floor and below, including basements, shall be capable of being opened, or there should be a door approved for emergency escape or rescue. The window or door shall be operable from the inside to provide a full clear opening without the use of separate tools or knowledge.

b. Windows should, at the very least, be secured in such a manner that an intruder is forced to break the glass in order to gain entry. Where the threat of forced entry and the breaking of windows is commonplace and where other acceptable alternatives, i.e., shutters, metal bars, etc. are not in place, measures such as the installation of grilles are recommended. At certain threat ratings and for some dwellings, DS approved alarms can be installed to detect intrusion. Local purchase or fabrication of locks and/or locking devices to enhance the security of windows is authorized.

12 FAH-8 H-523.1 Window Latching Devices

(TL:RSP-01; 11-01-2001)

a. Measures to upgrade the security of windows with movable sashes include drilling one or more holes through the sash and frames and insert a metal pin or nail to prevent the window from being opened. This is the simplest measure, which works equally well with single or double-hung windows and sliding windows of all types.

b. There are, however, many other locking devices available for windows that may provide a higher level of protection. However, if improperly installed or difficult to operate, i.e., key controlled, they can pose a safety hazard in the event that the window is needed for escape in an emergency. Local purchase or fabrication of window latching devices is authorized.

12 FAH-8 H-523.2 Louvered Type Windows

(TL:RSP-01; 11-01-2001)

These kinds of windows are an extremely poor intrusion deterrent. The glass panels can easily be removed, thus allowing access to the locking or bolting device. They are very difficult to secure. Local purchase or fabrication of equipment and/or material to enhance the security of louvered type windows is authorized.

12 FAH-8 H-523.3 Skylights

(TL:RSP-01; 11-01-2001)

If the residential security survey identifies a skylight as a security risk, it should be either grilled or secured on the interior side of the skylight. Local purchase or fabrication of equipment and/or material to secure the skylight is authorized.

12 FAH-8 H-523.4 Shatter Resistant Window Film (SRWF)

(TL:RSP-01; 11-01-2001)

In general, 12 FAH-6 H-110, *Political Violence Security Standards*, should be reviewed to determine which residences, under what threat rating, must be considered for shatter resistant window film (SRWF). All glass doors and windows considered by the RSO to be vulnerable to an explosive attack are to be considered for installation of a DS approved SRWF.

12 FAH-8 H-524 GRILLES AND/OR SHUTTERS

(TL:RSP-01; 11-01-2001)

In many locations abroad, decorative grilles or shutters are common. If the grilles are properly installed or if metal shutters are equipped with a sturdy locking mechanism, this may be acceptable for the post's threat rating.

12 FAH-8 H-524.1 Grilles

(TL:RSP-01; 11-01-2001)

a. Where grilles are recommended or required by the threat rating, grilles deemed adequate by the RSO for local conditions may be considered for accessible window openings. The RSO and/or PSO should evaluate local existing residential grille installations to determine what is best for post needs. Local purchase or fabrication of grilles is authorized.

b. For bedrooms, or other rooms used for sleeping, where no acceptable secondary egress is available, at least one grille over an operable window in each room should be equipped with an emergency release device as a secondary means of egress to permit emergency exit. If local fabrication or purchase of emergency release devices is not possible, notify DS/CIS/PSP/FPD. Commercial emergency release devices are available and may be located by searching the Internet. Posts should note that these devices generally do not have the benefit of certification by Federal, State or local authorities. **The emergency release device must not require the use of a key, tool or special knowledge**.

12 FAH-8 H-524.2 Shutters

(TL:RSP-01; 11-01-2001)

If shutters are in place and under consideration as an alternative to grilles, they should be of sturdy construction with interior locking mechanisms.

12 FAH-8 H-524.3 Emergency Egress

(TL:RSP-01; 11-01-2001)

a. All residential dwellings should have a means of emergency egress. When a residence is equipped with a safehaven, at least one emergency exit should be located in the residential safehaven. For bedrooms, see 12 FAH-8 H-524.1

b. DS/CIS/PSP/FPD does not require, fund, provide or recommend any specific brands or types of emergency descent devices, i.e., ropes, ladders, etc., for bedrooms above the first floor. However, posts are not prevented from providing such devices at their own initiative and expense.

c. Posts should be familiar with local fire department rescue capabilities.

12 FAH-8 H-525 LOCKS

12 FAH-8 H-525.1 General

(TL:RSP-01; 11-01-2001)

a. Locks are described by:

(1) Their use (primary or auxiliary);

(2) Their locking mechanism (pin tumbler, wafer disc, lever, magnetic, cipher, etc.);

(3) The type of cylinder (single or double); or

(4) The type of mounting (key-in-the-knob, mortised, rim, etc.)

b. Most primary locks on residential entry doors are of the key-in-the-knob variety and possess many weaknesses. All primary residential entry doors should be equipped with both a primary and auxiliary lock. Additionally, each entry door should have a wide-angle optical viewer or equivalent.

12 FAH-8 H-525.2 Types of Locks

(TL:RSP-01; 11-01-2001)

The various types of locks are:

(1) **Primary Locks**. A primary lock can be installed by drilling one or more holes through the sash and frames and inserting a metal pin or nail to prevent the window from being opened. Usually, these types of locks are the main locks on doors and are identified by the fact that they have handles. These locks are usually key-in-the-knob mortise type locks.

(2) **Auxiliary Locks**. These are usually deadbolts that are mortise or rim mounted and do not have handles to open or close the door. This type lock does not have to be keyed and may be nothing more than a sliding deadbolt. Mortise deadbolts are primarily used as the auxiliary lock on doors. A mortise deadbolt (sometimes referred to as a cylinder deadbolt) should possess a solid metal bolt with at least a one-inch throw. The bolt itself should have a hardened inner pin, which will rotate if an attempt is made to saw through the bolt. A good deadbolt lock should also have an outer cylinder that is constructed of heavy metal stock that rotates when someone attempts to turn it with a wrench.

(3) **Rim and/or Surface Mounted Locks**. These locks are located on the inner door and doorframe surface. The most common type rim and/or surface lock used in residential security is the horizontal deadbolt. The security of the rim and/or surface lock depends on how securely it can be attached to the door and doorframe. The rim and/or surface lock is used as an auxiliary lock.

(4) **Chain Locks**. These locks offer little or no protection and should never be relied on. These locks are extremely vulnerable to both forced and surreptitious entries.

(5) **Padlocks**. Padlocks are seldom used in the residential setting, except to secure permanently closed exits. Padlocks must not be used on emergency fire escape doors.

12 FAH-8 H-526 THROUGH H-529 UNASSIGNED